
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MODELING TASK FORCE
September 28, 2011

MINUTES

**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE
MODELING TASK FORCE.**

The Modeling Task Force held its meeting at SCAG's Main Office in Los Angeles on September 28, 2011.

Members Present:

Robert Farley (Chair)
Eric Bierce
Paul Burke
Firooz Hamedani
Chris Hy
Alex Riley
Rajeev Seetharam
Tony Van Haagen
Chun Wong
Jinghua Xu

LA Metro
Cambridge Systematics
Metro
Caltrans – Dist. 12
LADOT
Fehr & Peers
KOA Corporation
Caltrans – Dist. 7
LADOT
Parsons Brinkerhoff

Via Webconference/Teleconference:

Sole Aranguiz
Timothy Michalowski
Jason Minser
Luis Navarro
Steve Smith
Jack Tsao
Jason Xu
Marc Zuber

Caltrans
Abt SRBI
Abt SRBI
for Henning Eichler
SANBAG
City of Los Angeles
Parsons Brinkerhoff
City of Palmdale

SCAG Staff Present:

Mike Ainsworth
Cheryl Leising (via webconference)
Yongping Zhang
Daji Yuan

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Robert Farley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM and introductions were made.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approval Items

The July 27, 2011 Meeting Minutes were approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Status of Regional Modeling Programs

Robert Farley (MTA) discussed their current and planned model improvement projects. In the spring, their bus survey was completed. MTA is currently completing a rail survey. In addition, Robert discussed their on-board transit survey being conducted by NuStats. A focused survey of auto access to transit stations is also being developed. MTA is currently working with SCAG to update their highway/transit networks.

Firooz Hamedani (Caltrans District 12) spoke about their work updating cordon trips. They have had some issues with the cordon trips that are being resolved. Traffic counts have been collected for freeway counts in the counties.

Steve Smith (SANBAG) gave a summary of the mode choice and validation of their subregional model. Caliper has been working with SANBAG to apply SCAG's Subregional Model Tool. They are close to having the validated county-wide model completed and will be able to provide the future network and future SED in about 3-4 months. Steve will report with more information at the next meeting.

4.2 California Household Travel Survey (CHTS) Augment Survey

Jason Minser, Laurie Wargelin and Tim Michalowski from Abt-SRBI provided an overview and update on SCAG's CHTS Augment Survey. Abt-SRBI is managing all components of the CHTS Augment Survey for SCAG. They will contact households that have participated in the prior CHTS survey to administer additional follow-up questions (Add-On Survey). The entire SCAG

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region will be surveyed, with data collection starting January 15, 2012 and ending in early 2012. Abt-SRBI's primary concern is quality control. They will carefully monitor the survey process using continuous data flow tracking including interim reporting and review. There will be 4,700 households Core Surveys performed under Abt-SRBI's Contract. Tim Michalowski discussed Abt-SRBI's GPS device and methods. The GPS Survey will be conducted for participants who also completed a core survey. Note - 1,750 households will be surveyed with the GPS device. Some GPS units will be personal (wearable), and some will go into the vehicles. Abt-SRBI will produce weekly and bi-weekly status reports, and will be in constant communication with the project management teams.

Laurie and Jason followed-up with questions and answers with the MTF.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at:
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm>

4.3 AIRSAGE – Mobile Phone Application

Bob Pauley and Cy Smith from AirSage described the company's development of a mobile phone application that monitors location and movement of mobile phone subscribers. AIRSAGE has contracts with mobile carriers such as Sprint, AT&T and Verizon. AirSage aggregates and analyzes wireless network data to determine the location and movement of cell phones, while maintaining strict user privacy. There are about 130 million mobile subscribers that AIRSAGE can access and monitor the locations and movements. AirSage data enables a broad range of mobility analytics and insights, both real-time and historical analysis applications for transportation planning.

Cy provided an overview of the various information that the company can provide, such as real time traffic, historical speeds and travel, and origin-destination, trip tables, and other analysis. The company archives the information, so they can provide historical data. Questions about the product, safety and privacy were answered in the follow-up discussion.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at:
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm>

4.4 Regional Transportation Plan Update

Ryan Kuo (SCAG) gave an update on the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). SCAG is on schedule to release the draft document in early December. SCAG has just completed 18 RTP/SCS workshops in the region, which helped to provide information to develop the alternative scenarios.

Ryan discussed the alternatives that have been developed. Alternative A – modified 2008 RTP, which includes the commitments in the 2008 RTP updated with the latest information submitted by the CTCs. . Alternative B – the staff preferred alternative, dedicates additional funding to

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system preservation, non-motorized transportation, TDM, an East-West freight corridor, grade separation projects, and a regional High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lane network. Alternative C – similar to Alternative B, but includes more aggressive growth in fixed-guideway transit-oriented development districts and more aggressive transit and transportation funding to be consistent with the additional land use changes.

The schedule calls for the release of the Draft in December, then a 45-day public comment period, with final adoption of the RTP/SCS in April 2012.

4.5 Active Transportation

Margaret Lin (SCAG) presented an update on non-motorized travel options proposed for the 2012 RTP/SCS. The Active Transportation Chapter will include a description of the existing conditions, a summary of bicycle plans for the six county SCAG region, and information about accessing transit for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Preliminary recommendations for the Active Transportation Chapter are to increase bicycle and pedestrian use in the SCAG region as well as recommendations to decrease fatalities and injuries for those utilizing the bikeways. Other recommendations included: increasing accommodation and planning for bicyclists and pedestrians, encourage development of local active transportation plans, and producing a comprehensive regional active transportation plan (SCAG Regional Bikeway Network, California Coastal Trail). With the passage of SB375, the possibility of obtaining political support for active transportation is greatly increased. Also, the linkage with the land use planning will be greatly enhanced.

The PowerPoint presentation is available at <http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm>

5.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's Report.

6.0 STAFF REPORT/INFORMATION SHARING

There was no Staff Report.

7.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No suggestions – members were urged to email their suggested agenda items for future meetings.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am. The next meeting of the Modeling Task Force will be held on November 23, 2011 at the SCAG offices in downtown Los Angeles at 9:30am. Note – because of the Holiday schedule, the November MTF Meeting was cancelled.